

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ARA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 EUR-12 TRSE-00 /114 W
-----104175 141555Z /64

R 130837Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1408
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 12419

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, ID
SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

REF: JAKARTA 10667

1. VICE PRESIDENT ADAM MALIK TOLD REPORTERS SPETEMBER 12 THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO WOULD ATTEND THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT AT HAVANA IN 1979, SINCE INDONESIA WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. HE NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE A MEETING FOR HEADS OF STATE, AND REASONED FROM THAT THAT NO ONE OTHER THAN THE PRESIDENT COULD REPRESENT INDONESIA. ASKED IF THE POLITICAL SITUATION MIGHT CHANGE, AFFECTING THESE PLANS, MALIK RESPONDED THAT POLITICS DIDN'T MATTER, "WE JUST WANT TO SEE BEAUTIFUL CUBA".

2. COMMENT: MALIK'S REMARKS GOT HEADLINE TREATMENT IN JAKARTA NEWSPAPERS THE FOLLOWING DAY. HIS COMMENTS, HOWEVER, ARE IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH FONMIN MOCHTAR'S STATEMENTS LAST MONTH (REFTEL) TO THE EFFECT THAT THE RESULTS OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE HAD CAUSED THE GOI TO CHANGE ITS
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PLANS FOR SUHARTO'S ATTENDANCE AT THE HAVANASUMMIT, AND INDONESIA WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY A FOREIGN DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL OF AS YET UNDERTERMINED LEVEL. ONE INDONESIAN JOURNALIST HAS RELATED TO US PRIVATELY HIS OWN CYNICAL INTERPRETATION OF MALIK'S STATEMENT AN THAT WAS AS A PLOY BY MALIK TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE HIMSELF. SINCE THE OBVIOUS CHOIC IF THE HEAD OF STATE COULD NOT GO TO A

"HEADS OF STATE MEETING" WAS THE VICE-PRESIDENT, THIS JOURNALIST REASONED THAT MALIK MIGHT WELL LIKE TO UNDERCUT MOCHTAR BY GOING HIMSELF AND RETURNING TO HIS OLD HABITAT OF INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. WHETHER THIS IS INDEED MALIK'S INTENTION WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE ABOUT, BUT WE SUSPECT THAT AT THE VERY LEAST MALIK HAS ONCE AGAIN GIVEN THE PRESS HIS PERSONAL OPINION RATHER THAN OFFICIAL POLICY.

MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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